

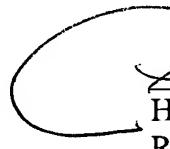
REMARKS

The present application was filed on February 12, 2002. A first Office Action on the merits has yet to be mailed.

Applicant is amending the claims of the present application to overcome the teachings of U.S. Patent 4,996,835, which was made of record in an IDS on July 30, 2002. Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP COPY OF AMENDED APPLICATION - 10/074,692

IN THE CLAIMS

1. **(AMENDED)** A jewelry rope chain, having non-elongated links interwoven together to form a double helix configuration, each link having a cross section, the largest transverse distance across said cross section having a dimension d_w , each link having an outer periphery and an inner periphery, and a gap extending at one location between the outer and inner peripheries, the inner periphery defining an interior space, the widest dimension of the interior space in a direction consistent with the direction of the gap having a dimension D , and wherein D is less than three times d_w .
2. **(AMENDED)** A [Jewelry] jewelry rope chain as in claim 1, wherein said rope chain is formed by pluralities of assemblies of said links in series, each assembly comprising two adjacent links, and an end link enveloping said two adjacent links throughout such chain, said two adjacent links having their respective gaps assembled in the same orientation and being fixedly attached to each other to form a group, and said group being fixedly attached to said end link having a gap orientation about 180 degrees removed with respect to the gaps of the links of said group.
13. **(AMENDED)** A method of forming a jewelry rope chain having non-elongated links interwoven together to form a double helix configuration, each link having a cross section, the largest transverse distance across said cross section having a dimension d_w , each link having an outer periphery and an inner periphery, the

inner periphery defining an interior space, and a gap extending at one location between the outer and inner periphery, the widest dimension of the interior space in the direction consistent with the direction of the gap having a dimension D, where D is less than three times d_w , the method comprising the steps of forming a plurality of link assemblies in series, with each assembly comprising two adjacent links and an end link enveloping the other two adjacent links.